

Appl. No. 10/506,285  
Amendment and/or Response  
Reply to Office action of 26 April 2007

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**REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES**

Claims 1-13 and 16-20 are pending in the application.

The Office action rejects:

claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cok (USPA 2003/0230972) and Wisbey et al. (USP 4,007,396, hereinafter Wisbey); and

claims 1-4 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cok and Holman et al. (USP 6,871,982, hereinafter Holman); and

claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cok, Wisbey, and Xu et al. (USP 6,362,566, hereinafter Xu). The applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The applicant claims priority to EP0205861.1, filed 6 March 2002. Cok was filed on 12 June 2002, and Holman was filed on 22 January 2004.

Because Cok and Holman were filed after the priority date of this application, the applicants respectfully maintain that Cok and Holman are not available as prior art to this application.

Because each of the rejections rely on Cok, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection(s) and/or rejection(s) of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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